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65575

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01/07/2010

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. BOX 320850
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850

EXAMINER

TERMANINI, SAMIR

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2179

DATE MAILED: 01/07/2010

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/740,467	12/22/2003	Lance Everett Good	117035	3625

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR SUPPORTING PRESENTATION TOOLS USING ZOOMABLE USER INTERFACE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	04/07/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE** OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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65575 7590 01/07/2010

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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

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nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	04/07/2010

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
TERMANINI, SAMIR	2179	715-732000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB-122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB-47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2179

DATE MAILED: 01/07/2010

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 717 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 717 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/740,467

Examiner

Samir Termanini

Applicant(s)

GOOD ET AL.

Art Unit

2179

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/27/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5, 7-23 and 25-34.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

BACKGROUND

1. This action is responsive to the following communications: Amendment/Remarks after final mail dated 11/27/2009.
2. Applicant's After Final Amendment (Mail dated: 11/27/2009) has been entered.
3. 32 claims are allowed. More particularly, Claims 1-5, 7-23, and 25-34 are allowed in this case.

EXAMINERS AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
5. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel A. Tanner, III (Reg. No. 54,734) on 12/22/2009.
6. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims, please amend claim 18 in the following manner:

18. A system for supporting a slide presentation in a zoomable space, comprising:

a structure construction circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that recursively provides a structure of presentation information, the presentation information including one or more of slides, text labels and graphical elements, and that provides a hierarchy in the presentation information, the hierarchy including different levels; and

a layout management circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that analyzes the levels of the hierarchy, automatically generates a layout of presentation information in the zoomable space in a format including at least one of an outline format and a nested rectangular grouping, based on the levels of the hierarchy when the hierarchy is provided or in real time as the hierarchy is being provided, synchronizes the layout of the presentation information in the zoomable space based on the structure of the presentation information, updates the hierarchy when a user edits the layout in the zoomable space and that provides a plurality of synchronizations through the presentation information; and

wherein said structure construction circuit and said layout management circuit are implemented in hardware.

19. The system according to claim 18, further comprising: a path construction/update circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that creates a path based on the structure, the path being a sequence of the presentation information for the slide show, and automatically updates the path based on a modification in at least one of a hierarchy and the layout, received by a modification management circuit, ~~routine or application~~; and

wherein said construction/update circuit is implemented in hardware.

21. The system according to claim 18, further comprising a slide show management circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that displays the presentation information based on a path; and

wherein said slide show management circuit is implemented in hardware.

22. The system according to claim 18, further comprising: a slide construction circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that allows the user to create the slides;

and a text label creation circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that allow the user to create the text labels; and

wherein said slide construction circuit is implemented in hardware.

23. The system according to claim 18, wherein the modification management circuit, ~~routine or application~~ synchronizes the hierarchy a hierarchy and the layout based on the modification a modification; and

wherein said modification management circuit is implemented in hardware.

24. The system according to claim 18, wherein the layout management circuit, ~~routine or application~~ arranges the presentation information in a format that includes at least one of a circular format, an outline format, an arc format, a nested rectangular grouping, a network format, a rectangular format, and a line format; and

wherein said layout management circuit is implemented in hardware.

25. The system according to claim 18, further comprising a path display circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that displays the path and an updated path; and

wherein said path display circuit is implemented in hardware.

26. The system according to claim 25, wherein the path display circuit, ~~routine or application~~ displays the path using thumbnail images of the information; and

wherein said display circuit is implemented in hardware.

27. The system according to claim 19 wherein the path construction/update circuit, ~~routine or application~~ takes a graphical image of a particular area of the zoomable space and inserts the graphical image as presentation information in the path; and

wherein said path construction/update circuit is implemented in hardware.

28. The system according to claim 18, further comprising a navigation circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that allows the user to navigate the presentation information in a direction in the zoomable space, the direction including navigating to at least one of a higher level of the hierarchy, a hierarchy, a lower level of the hierarchy, and the presentation information in the same level of the hierarchy-~~i~~ and

wherein said navigation circuit is implemented in hardware.

29. The system according to claim 28, wherein the navigation circuit, ~~routine or application~~ displays indicators of a current slide such that the text labels and/or the slides near the current slide are indicated, and displays indications to indicate the level of hierarchy of the current slide.

30. The system according to claim 28, wherein the navigation circuit, ~~routine or application~~ navigates the zoomable space by going to a higher level in the hierarchy, a lower level in the hierarchy, another information in the same level of the hierarchy, and a root of the hierarchy-~~r~~; and

wherein said navigation circuit is implemented in hardware.

31. The system according to claim 28, wherein the navigation circuit, ~~routine or application~~ zooms into and out from a particular area in the zoomable space.; and

wherein said navigation circuit is implemented in hardware.

32. A system for supporting a slide show in a zoomable space, comprising:

a structure construction circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that recursively provides a structure of presentation information, the presentation information including one or more of slides, text labels and graphical elements, and that provides a hierarchy of the presentation information, the hierarchy including different levels;

a layout management circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that analyzes the levels of the hierarchy and automatically provides a layout of the presentation information in the zoomable space in a format including at least one of an outline format and a nested rectangular grouping, based on the levels of the hierarchy when the hierarchy is provided or in real time as the hierarchy is being provided and that updates the hierarchy when a user edits the layout in the zoomable space; ~~and~~

a path construction/update circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that creates a path based on the structure of the presentation information and automatically updates the path based on a modification upon receiving the modification in at least one of the structure of the presentation information and the layout, and that provides a plurality of synchronizations through the presentation information; ~~and~~

wherein said structure construction circuit, said layout management circuit, and said path construction/update circuit are implemented in hardware.

33. A system for supporting a slide show in a zoomable space, comprising:

a structure construction circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that recursively provides a hierarchy of presentation information, the presentation information including one or more of slides, text labels and graphical elements;

a layout management circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that provides a layout of the presentation information in the zoomable space based on the hierarchy;

a navigation circuit, ~~routine or application~~ that allows a user to navigate the presentation information in a direction in the zoomable space, the direction including navigating to at least one of a higher level of the hierarchy, a lower level of the hierarchy, and the presentation information in the same level of the hierarchy; and wherein said structure construction circuit, said layout management circuit, and said path construction/update circuit are implemented in hardware.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As an initial matter, it should be noted that not all reasons for allowance are set forth hereunder. The major differences in the claims not found in the prior art of record are:

- 1) Automatically laying out generating a layout of the presentation information in the zoomable space in a format including at least one of an outline format and a nested rectangular grouping; and
- 2) Automatically updating the hierarchy when a user edits the layout in the zoomable space.

An exemplar of the claimed nested rectangular grouping, as clearly articulated throughout Applicant's specification, is demonstrated by illustration in Applicant's Fig. 5 (reproduced here):

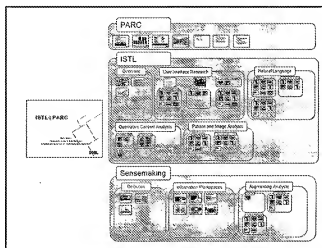


FIG. 5

In the examiner's opinion, the claimed invention (i.e., set forth by the independent claims: 1, 16-18, 32 and 33) would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art because there is no teaching or suggestion anywhere in the prior art of a nested rectangular grouping and automatically updating its the hierarchy when a user edits its layout in a zoomable space. In addition, the closest prior art's cited use of a zoomable node view falls short of teaching the automatic update of any hierarchy that occurs when a user edits any layout in a zoomable space.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONCLUSION

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Samir Termanini whose telephone number is (571) 270-1047.

The Examiner can normally be reached from 9 A.M. To 4 P.M., Monday through Friday (excluding alternating Fridays).

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (571) 272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, *see* <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Samir Termanini/
Examiner, Art Unit 2179

/Weilun Lo/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2179